

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated November 17, 2006. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-8 are under consideration in this application. Claim 1 is being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim applicant's invention.

The claims are being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better recite or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-8 under were rejected 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by US Pat. No. 6,177,931 to Alexander et al. (hereinafter "Alexander"). This rejection has been carefully considered, but is most respectfully traversed.

The recording/reproducing apparatus of the present invention, as now recited in claim 1, comprises a reservation means for setting up a timer reservation program, a recording means for performing recording operation on the basis of one set-up timer reservation program, and an additional reservation means for concurrently setting up another one timer reservation program while said recording means continuously performing said recording operation according to said one set-up timer reservation program ("*add another timer reservation recording without interrupting recording in the course of timer reservation recording execution.*" [0010]; [0013] of the corresponding US Pub. No. 2004/0076060).

In contrast, Alexander merely allows a viewer to add programs to the Record list prior to the show time, but Alexander fails to teach or suggest "concurrently setting up another one timer reservation program while said recording means continuously performing said recording operation according to said one set-up timer reservation program" as the present invention.

Alexander's EPG "provides the viewer with the opportunity to select program titles, scheduled for delivery at future times, to watch. By selecting program titles, the viewer builds a "watch list." Watch list options and instructions provide functionality parallel to the EPG's Record Function (col. 9, line 65 to col. 10, line 2)." Therefore, the programs are selected/listed in the Record lists prior to their show times.

"FIGS. 3, 4a and b, 5, and 6, the EPG displays two buttons at the top of each of the four screens pictured. In each of the four different screens, the top left button has a different function (col. 9, lines 47-50). FIG. 3 shows a EPG's on-screen Grid Guide in the programming scrolling mode (col. 2, lines 32-34), and it also offer the viewer the options between "Watch" or "Record" on the top banner. FIG. 5 shows the EPG in the Watch Scheduling function (col. 2, lines 39-41). The screen in Fig. 5 shows at the left upper corner the current time as 10:03 pm. Since the "Watch" reservation must be made prior to a program show time, the screen in Fig. 5 is only showing the 10:30 -11:00 pm programs scheduled to be aired after 10:03 pm. By analogy, when in a "Record" scheduling mode, the screen only shows programs scheduled to be aired after the current time.

FIG. 6 shows a Watch/Record Schedule screen of the EPG (col. 2, lines 42-44). In Fig. 6, the viewer is allowed to either "Remove" or "Change" an existing scheduled program (col. 9, lines 61-63), but NOT to schedule a new Watch/Record reservation. At most, Alexander allows the viewer to "**Remove**" or "**Change**" at 10:03 pm a reservation already started from 10:00 pm while the relevant program is being recorded. However, Alexander does not allow the viewer to "**Create**" or "**Set Up**" a new reservation while a program is being recorded as scheduled according a prior reservation.

Applicants contend that Alexander does not teach or suggest each and every feature of the present invention as recited in independent claim 1. As such, the present invention as now claimed is distinguishable and thereby allowable over the rejections raised in the Office Action. The withdrawal of the outstanding prior art rejections is in order, and is respectfully solicited.

Conclusion

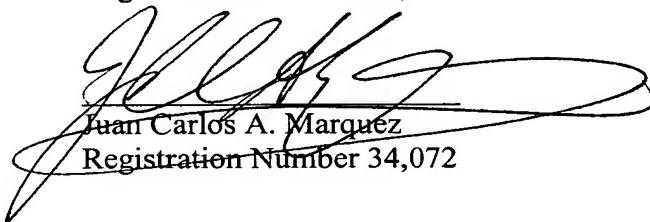
In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art reference upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicants respectfully contend that the prior art references cannot

anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

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